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On the 1st of MARCH *will be published,*

N° I.

FOR JANUARY,

AND

N° II.

FOR FEBRUARY,

OF THE

NEW SERIES

OF THE

ANALYTICAL REVIEW:

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AND SOLD BY

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ADVERTISEMENT.

A Review which, untainted by the Prejudices of Party or the Dogmas of Sectarism—which, unbiased by professional Interests, and superior to the momentary Caprices of popular Enthusiasm, should maintain itself wholly and exclusively subservient to the abstract Interests of Truth and Science, has long been a Desideratum in the Commonwealth of Literature:—And if the Want of such a Work were alone sufficient to ensure its Success, there could not be a Time more favourable than the present to its Institution.

It is, however, but too obvious that the same Circumstances in the State of the Times which enhance the Importance of such an Undertaking, augment, in an equal Proportion, the Difficulties of its Prosecution. One of the most essential Duties, as it involves one of the most important Objects, of a Review, is to serve as a Barrier of Protection to the Province of philosophical Inquiry against the overwhelming Torrent of Party Violence. What, then, shall we think of the literary Character of an Age in which Publications of this Kind so far forget the Department and insult the Name which they assume, as to make the most open Disregard of this Principle their first Profession, and the most flagrant Violation of it their first Claim to Esteem!

How far the Conduct of the Analytical Review may have been such as to entitle it to the Merit of an uniform Attention to the strict Duties of its Office, it does not belong to our present Purpose to inquire. It is enough to observe, that its general Character has been such as to give the Friends of liberal Inquiry sufficient Reason to regret its Discontinuance. But if such a Circumstance be fitted to

excite Regret, it ſhould be remembered that it is alſo fitted to rouſe Exertion. The Power of ſupporting and advancing the Intereſts of Truth reſides with all thoſe who have the Capacity of diſcerning them: And the Duty of exerting this Power wherever thoſe Intereſts are in Queſtion, can never be neglected without Blame, nor deſerted without Treachery. To abandon the Standard of Truth either from Deſpair of the Prejudices, or from Dread of the Perſecution of her Enemies is, without exculpating ourſelves, to libel the Dignity of our Cauſe. Truth has nothing to fear from either the Prejudices or the Perſecution of the Partiſans of Error, whilſt her own Friends continue ſtedfaſt in her Defence.

In ſhort, this Continuation of the ANALYTICAL REVIEW offers itſelf to the Public, not as a Subject of partial or temporary Concern, but as an Undertaking with which, as devoted to ſome of the moſt important Intereſts of human Society, the Friends of human Improvement are called upon to make a common Cauſe. It neither ſolicits Patronage by perſonal Profeſſions, nor claims it by Party Alliances. Its only Alliance is with the general Intereſts of Truth; its only Profeſſion that of a ſincere and ardent Solicitude for their Advancement: And, in addreſſing itſelf to the Public, it demands the Support of thoſe whoſe Zeal in their Behalf has been neither ſuperſeded by the Spirit of Faction, nor impaired by the Menaces of Perſecution.

With ſuch a View of the Undertaking before us, it will not be ſuppoſed that we could preſume to engage in it without Preparations worthy of its Importance, and adequate to its Extent. And we are happy to announce that our Endeavours have been thus far ſucceſsful in ſecuring to us the Aſſiſtance of Men whoſe Characters and literary Talents promiſe to give the greateſt Reſpectability to its Execution.

As a general Plan, we ſhall adhere as much as poſſible to the Syſtem of Analyſis, as beſt calculated to ſerve the united Intereſts of the Author and the Reader, by giving Satisfaction to the latter, and doing Juſtice to the former.

Excluding from our Criticiſms all Interference of Party Zeal, it will be alſo our Care to guard againſt every Bias of perſonal Prejudice. Our REVIEW will be neither the Tool of Faction nor the Vehicle of Intrigue.

On the Principle of our Predeceſſors, we ſhall avoid ſupplementary Numbers. Articles of foreign Literature will be firſt announced upon the earlieſt Intelligence, and afterwards reviewed in the Body of the Work as Opportunity ſhall put them into our Hands.

The RETROSPECT OF THE ACTIVE WORLD will be diſcontinued, as involving Diſcuſſions foreign to the Purpoſes of a Work devoted ſolely to the Operations of Science and Literature.

An Undertaking which embraces a Field ſo extenſive as that of a Review muſt neceſſarily be liable to frequent Errors, and, with the moſt active Attention, be obnoxious to much Reproach. To atone, as far as poſſible, for the former, and to avoid all deſerved Imputation of the latter, it is propoſed in the future Conduct of the ANALYTICAL REVIEW to appropriate a Part of the Work to Inſertion of the Remonſtrances or Vindications of ſuch Authors as may imagine themſelves to have been treated with unjuſt Cenſure. Such a Plan muſt, from its Nature, call for Modifications in the Execution—Modifications, too much dependent upon Circumſtances to be defined otherwiſe than by ſaying that they will be dictated by a Senſe of the ſtricteſt Reſponſibility to the broadeſt Principles of liberal Criticiſm.

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